OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The total amount of default as on 311-88 is Rs. 27.93 Crores due to non-payment of instalments and Rs. 6.25 Crores on account of penal interest in respect of over 2000 units. Gene-rally, reasons for default 'are shortage of power; non-availability of skilled labour; differences among partners|direc-iors; inadequacy of working capital etc.

(b) The system for providing assistance has been so devised that no individual officer is empowered to sanction any loan application. The Corporation has a set procedure for providing assistance. All thg applications are examined by a Technical Evaluation Committee consisting of re-presentatives from various- Govt. Deptts. and State Govts.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Corporation has initiated legal action against about 634 firms. Regionwise details are as under:—

Region	No. of cases	Approximate amount involved in the law suits (including normal & penal interest (Rs. in Lakhs)
Regional Office-Delhi	236	371.00
Regional office-Calcutta	137	101.00
Regional Office-Gauhati	18	18.60
Regional Office-Madras	127	96.00
Regional Office-Bombay	116	101.10
	634	687.70

(d) During the period from 1-4-87 to 31-1-88, the NSIC has recovered an amount of Rs. 8.01 Crores from the defaulting firms. The legal cases are at different stages in various Courts.

1957. *[Transferred to the 22nd March,* 1988]

Plead for an early clearance of Punjab Agro-Pepsi Cola Project

1958. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL; Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer t<j the Answer to Starred Question 86 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th February, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State of Punjab and various other organisations of farmers and fruit growers are pleading for an early clearance of Punjab-Agro-Pepsi Cola Project;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the delay in clearing the Project;

(c) what will be the annual foreign earnings from the Project; and

(d) what is the estimated number ot people likely to be provided employment direct and indirect, by the commissioning of this Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of issues required ex amination in consultation with various Government Departments and Agencies.

(c) This project is estimated to earn about Rs. 194 crores in foreign exchange over a period of 10 years.

(d) According to Punjab Agro Industries Corporation, the project will provide direct employment to 500 persons and indirect employment opportunities to a substantial number of people In agriculture, anciilaries, retail and distribution systems, etc.

Joint ventures with FRG

1959. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fhe Federal Republic of Germany has agreed to collaborate with India in joint ventures in hi-tech industries;

(b) if so, whether Government have since entered into any agreement with the Federal Republic of Germany for starting joint ventures in India; and

(c) if so, what 'are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM): (a) to (c) Government Welcome cooperation with other countries in the hi-tech areas to modernise Our industries and improve t'neir productivity to make, them inter-nationally competitive provided the terms 'and conditions offered are within our policy parameters. Industrial collaborations are a continuing process. FRG occupies a prominent position in technology transfer to Indi'an companies. The foreign collaboration cases approved with FRG constitute about 18 per cent of the total approvals sanctioned by the Government. However, Government have not signed any specific agreement with FRG for starting joint ventures in India.

Prices of tyres and tubes

1960. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHA-KRISHNA; Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of automobile tyres and tubes have been increased by the manufacturers during the last three years; and

(to) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government h'ave taken to control the prices of tyres and tubes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAI DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM); (a) Tyre and tube prices were increased by manufacturers during the last 3 years as follows: March, 1985-8% to 9.5% April-May, 1986—5% July, 1987—7%

(b) According to the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association, the reason for the increase in prices is the increase in input costs. There are r^ statutory control over prices of tyres and tubes. However, in order to 'allow free play to market forces and protect the consumers interests, Government have been liberally sanctioning fresh capacities and allowing existing units to expand their capacities under the minimum economic scales scheme. Government are in regular touch with the manufacturers to maximise production of tyres nnc| tubes in order to ensure their adequate 'availability and may also consider import of tyres if the need arises.

उत्तर प्रदेश में सरकारी क्षेत्र के एककों के लिए धनराशियां

1961. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने 29 फरवरी, 1988 तक उत्तर प्रदेश में सरकारी क्षेत्र